

# COP FIGHTS BANDIT ON PRECIPICE BOTH ROLL TO FOOT, THE LAW ON TOP

## Girl Looks On As Her Rookie Gets Park Thug

Patrolman Peter Serani, a probationary officer attached to the Police Academy, early today was sitting on a bench in Riverside Park, 89th Street and Riverside Drive, with Miss Helen Clark, of 70 West 91st St., when two bandits tried to rob them.

Patrolman Serani, it must be said, lives in the Village, at 112 Sullivan St., where a man can't be a good sheik unless he's a fighter. So when the two bandits jammed him in the ribs with guns he arose.

"Don't scream, Miss," they said to Miss Clark. "We never rob pretty girls."

### Cop's Dignity Hurt

One of the bandits started to search Serani, whose dignity was so hurt that he stepped back, drew out his blackjack and clouted the man down and out. His companion, frightened at the determination of the officer, ran away.

Meanwhile the man whom Serani had knocked down arose and started to fight. While Miss Clark screamed for help at the top of her voice and tried to aid Serani in his fight against the bandit, the two men battled furiously.

At the edge of the park there is a forty-five-foot precipice which drops to the tracks of the New York Central Railroad.

### At Edge of Precipice

The cop and the bandit struggled at the very edge of it for a minute, and then toppled down, rolling over and over until they landed on the tracks beneath.

Both were dazed and badly hurt, but the cop, with true fighting instinct, crawled on top of the bandit and pinned him to earth. Miss Clark, meanwhile, had summoned a train crew, one member of which called more police.

The bandit whom Serani captured was taken to the West 100th Street police station, where he was booked on a charge of robbery. He said his name was John Pierce, 22, of 360 East 42d St., and that he had been in the city only a week.

### Two Others Arrested

On information given by the captured bandit, the police later went to 316 East 42d St. and arrested two other men, who admitted being concerned in the attempted hold-up. They said they were John Langhaster, 22, and Edwin R. Smith.

## BABY LEFT AT SCHOOL FINALLY GETS A HOME

A chubby baby girl, abandoned on the doorstep of the Bridgeville, N. J., public school two months ago and unclaimed by the mother who deserted her, has been adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Champlin of Harmony, Warren county, N. J. The couple opened their home to the waif a few days after it was found.

## ARMOR DECLARED JUNK BY REDS BRINGS \$100,000

LONDON (By U. P.).—Russian armor, formerly classed by the Soviet regime as "junk," is rapidly changing hands here at as high as \$300,000.

The collection was formerly part of that belonging to a Russian prince and was taken from his castle during the revolution. It had been there since the 16th century.

## New York's Swimming Hole



"LET THE SUN ROAST. Who cares?" This was the happy cry of these kiddies above on Attorney Street as they frolicked about under the shower set up by firemen. It was "splash, gurgles and the water's great" in this pool, although diving was not recommended.

## 3 Dead, 13 Prostrated By Sun and Humidity

New York more than sweltered yesterday and this morning. A blazing sun and high humidity caused three deaths and thirteen prostrations in a heat wave which is expected to continue today, according to the weather bureau.

## He Balks at Alimony After Divorced Wife Remarries

Should a guilty husband in a divorce action be compelled to pay alimony to the victorious wife after she remarries?

Vice-Chancellor John Bentley of Jersey City will have to decide the question in an action brought by Dr. Arthur C. Dietrick, a Hoboken dentist, who seeks to have payments to his former wife discontinued because she has remarried and is afforded proper support by her new husband.

## Baby Attacker Sentenced Friday

John S. Wright of 9201 5th Ave., Brooklyn, today is locked up awaiting sentence on a charge of severely beating his 15-month-old baby while it was asleep in a crib.

He will be arraigned on Friday before Judge Nova in the Kings County Court. The baby's attacker, according to his wife, used dope and had struck his child before. He pleaded guilty to third degree assault, which carries a term of from three months to three years.

### DEATH OF DENTIST

PORT CHESTER, Aug. 4.—Dr. Willard F. Tooker, dentist, died at his home here. He was born in Port Chester sixty-three years ago.

## Thugs Hold Up Drug Store, Owner Thrown in Cellar

Robert Falkner, owner of a drug store at 868 Eighth Ave., early today paid a \$2,000 toll, including 14 Liberty bonds, to three bandits who raided his store, threw him into the cellar, handcuffed his clerk, and then escaped.

Fred Holter of 1238 Morris Ave., The Bronx, clerk in the drug store, hesitated when a man appeared at the locked door and saw he had urgent need of some medicine. It was closing time. Holter had been rearranging the showcase preparatory to leaving. Falkner was in the rear putting the day's receipts in a safe.

Finally the bandit gained admittance. He was immediately followed by two others. With guns they forced the clerk to keep quiet. He was pinioned near a phone booth by one of the bandits. The two others went to the rear and quickly subdued Falkner. They then opened a trap door leading to the cellar and threw him down.

In the safe the hold-up men found \$1,381 in bills and \$700 in Liberty Bonds. Then they went out, locking the door after them.

Holter wriggled to the telephone and called for the police. Patrolmen were unable to get in, and so they broke through the door with axes. They used a hacksaw to free the clerk from the handcuffs.

## Dragged Around the House by the Hair, She Asks Divorce

Alleging her husband threatened to shoot her and that he had a habit of dragging her about the house by her hair, Mrs. Mary Zoska of Bayonne has filed suit for divorce in Jersey City Chancery Court. Pending trial, Vice-Chancellor Bentley granted her custody of their three children, as well as temporary alimony.

## LADY ASTOR RESTING AT PENOBSCOT BAY

BAR HARBOR, ME., Aug. 4.—Lady Nancy Astor, member of the

British Parliament, today was free from political cares at the summer residence of Charles Dana Gibson, the artist, on Seven Hundred Acre Island, across the harbor.

Coming from Boston, where she arrived from England with four of her children including the Hon. Phyllis Astor, her 17-year-old daughter, and a nurse and a maid, she began a month's vacation with her sister and brother-in-law in picturesque Penobscot Bay, the scene of her honeymoon.



## SWALLOWS IODINE AFTER A QUARREL

A quarrel with her husband, Frederick, according to the police, early today led Mrs. Gertrude Samistag, 23, of 3732 Lyne Ave., Sea Gate, Coney, to swallow iodine at the home of her mother-in-law, 521 West 112th St., Manhattan.

After treatment at the Knickerbocker Hospital she returned home.

## URGE LONDON METHOD TO CURB TAXI DRIVERS

In an effort to eliminate accidents by taxicab drivers, the two-week plan now in force in London may be adopted in this city. One look, from the police, contains the driver's personal record, while the other gives an account of his employment services, together with recommendations from employers. In case of accident the driver will be unable to switch from one company to another without first showing his record.

This was announced at a luncheon given by Col. Lewis Landis, general counsel of the Lincoln Auto Mutual Casualty Company, in conjunction with the traffic department of the police department and the fleet owners of New York taxicabs.

### DIPLOMAT DIES

Louis Henry Junod, consul general of Switzerland, is dead today at his home in Stratford House, 11 East 32d St.

### STORE OWNER DIES

BUTLER, N. J., Aug. 5.—Solomon Levine, owner of a department store here, is dead of blood poisoning.

## Beggar a Walking Bank, Has \$12,385 When Jailed

Patrolmen in the Oak Street station early today gazed in astonishment as they counted \$12,385 which they had taken from Jacob Frank, 66, of 330 Scammel St., who was arrested on a charge of begging.

Frank was literally a walking bank. The bills were wrapped around both his arms. They were covered by white oilcloth and bound by elastic bands. In addition he had a full money belt around his waist. Despite the extra covering on his body, Frank told the police the heat did not affect him very much and that he felt very comfortable on those places shrouded by the money.

The bills, however, were crumpled and wet. In fact, he admitted he did not know exactly how much he had.

The bank was unearthed by Patrolman Frederick Croker of the

Oak Street station in front of 3 Pell St. According to him, Frank was soliciting arms. So Croker went over and solicited a talk with him, and brought him to the station house.

Frank's story read like the tale of a poor immigrant who rose to riches—\$12,385—and then was bound to solicit more to prepare for "old age." About thirty years ago he came here from Austria. He obtained work as a porter, he said. And from a porter he became a walking bank, according to the police.

## MOVE TO SELL PRESERVE TO STATE AS CAPITAL

PAUL SMITHS, N. Y., Aug. 4.—It is reported here that there is a movement on foot among New York capitalists to sell the former Rockefeller preserve to the state for a summer capital for the governor of New York.

Gov. Smith, while in the Adirondacks, inspected the 52,000 acres, which are now owned by Col. Ben McAlpin of New York, John McDonald of Utica and others.